



Craig Interagency Dispatch Center

Northwest Colorado

For Immediate Release
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FIRE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

(Craig, CO) – Based on current conditions, land managers, county sheriffs, and fire officials are lifting (rescinding) existing fire restrictions in Northwest Colorado. Recent, widespread rains accompanied by cloud cover, cooler temperatures and shorter days have lowered fire activity. Fire Ecologist Charley Martin said, “The fire danger has been decreasing steadily over the past two weeks and puts us in the low to moderate rating. However, if dry, windy conditions develop vegetation could dry out quickly.”

Counties and agencies in Northwest Colorado have been meeting weekly to discuss fire conditions in an effort to manage the fire bans in a consistent manner making it easier for the public to follow.

Even though restrictions are being lifted, fire officials remind everyone to continue fire safety practices. Drought conditions have not improved and are not expected to any time soon. With the rain on Sunday came lightning, and five single-tree fires were reported to the Craig Interagency Dispatch Center that day.

Some tips to remember are:

- It is unlawful to leave a campfire unattended. Citations will be issued.
- Keep plenty of water and a shovel handy and drown all fires completely. Stir the remains, add water and stir again.
- Extinguish and dispose of all smoking materials away from any fuel source. Hold matches until cold.
- Clear area of brush and grass around campfires and use existing fire rings or pits when possible.

- Use approved spark arresters on chainsaws, ATVs and other internal combustion powered equipment.
- The use of fireworks are always illegal on public lands.

Fire restrictions are lifted in Grand, Jackson, Routt and Moffat counties. Restrictions were removed last week in Rio Blanco County. Restrictions are removed on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests, The Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, White River National Forest, Dinosaur National Monument, Browns Park Wildlife Refuge, and all Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands within the above mentioned counties.

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